

## THE PRAIRIE FARMER.

This paper has been the leading one of its class in the West, for twenty-one years. It has ever been the farmer's friend, guarding closely the interests of the producers of the great west, aiding the husbandman by timely hints and suggestions to adopt the best systems of culture and avoid the sad mistakes made by others. The publishers seem to spare no labor or expense necessary to make it reliable and interesting. In its various departments, much attention is given to General Farm operations, the Orchard, the Garden and the Household. The Market intelligence is prepared with evident care, and the digest of news contained each week, keeps pace with the great events of the day giving such results of movements and occurrences as really take place, without giving currency to the many rumors made to day, to be contradicted tomorrow.

The Paper is made in a very convenient form of binding, being 16 pages, with index in each number, and a full index of the whole volume every six months. Its value to the producers is such, that there is the loss, if it is not taken.

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## PENSIONS TO VOLUNTEERS.

It will no doubt interest our brave volunteers to know, that in case they are disabled or killed while in service, their families will not want for bread. The nation through the Government stretches its protecting arm over the widow and the fatherless of its soldiers tenderly adopting them as its own; and every man wounded or disabled in the service of his country, may rest assured that, in his hour of helplessness, his support is assured. Already the families of many of those who fell at Bull Run are in receipt of pensions from the Government. By section 1 of the law passed July 4, 1836, soldiers of the volunteer or militia service, and the widow of soldiers dying in battle, or from injury or disease incurred while in service, are entitled to the full benefit of the invalid pension laws. Volunteers for more than six months are especially provided for by an act passed at the last session of Congress. The wounded soldier receives an allowance proportionate to his disability. If totally incapacitated from labor, he receives the pay of a soldier in active service—if partially disabled, a proportionate pension, graduated according to the extent of the examining surgeon. Wounds of officers and soldiers get one-half the pay which their husbands receive. If no widow survives, then the pension is paid to the children, if any, until they arrive at the age of sixteen years. No bounty-land has been voted to soldiers for service subsequent to the act of March 3, 1855, but when peace is restored the provision will probably be made for the loyal men now in service, or their immediate surviving relatives, should be made for the loyal men now in service, or their immediate surviving relatives, should the principals not live to claim it. Those who have claims, or desire further information upon this subject, may obtain it by writing to the Commissioner of Pensions at Washington.—*Ex.*

New York, Jan. 18.

The Commercial says private dispatches state that the privateer Sumter has been sunk by a United States gun boat off Cadiz.

## GEN. McCLELLAND AND THE APPROACHING MOVEMENTS OF THE ARMY.

The following is an extract from a private letter written by a prominent citizen of New York:

WASHINGTON, Jan. 12, 1862.

"My Dear Sir: The night of the rebellion has passed, and the dawn is about breaking. Before the present month has gone these things will surely come to pass: Gen. Halleck, with the great flotilla and an army of one hundred thousand strong, will sweep like an avalanche down the Mississippi, where they will be joined by Gen. Butler in New Orleans and Mobile. Gen. Bell, with nearly or quite the same force, will march into Tennessee, capture Nashville, and co-operate with the Union forces in a manner and direction it would not be profitable now to point out. Generals Rosecrans and Kelly will advance from Western Virginia, and do their share in harmony with the general plan. General Banks and Stone will move in conjunction with the rest from the Upper Potomac. General Burnside will do his appointed work in Virginia. General Sherman will explain by deeds, not words, his inaction. Gen. McClellan will force the rats from their holes at Manassas, attack them at three points at once, and will fulfil his modest pledge that the war will be short but desperate. I do not give you more than the general outline of these simultaneous movements. The details of the grand plan of this campaign will startle the world, and vindicate General McClellan's high reputation for military strategy. The men and supplies are now, for the first time, nearly ready. The delays, caused mainly by 'red tape' and interloping fossils in and out of the departments, and by thieving contractors and material men, will be accounted for, and the blame placed where it belongs. A premature movement would have deranged the plan of the whole campaign, which is so perfect that success is certain. A bad move, untimely made, might have hazarded the game. The impending fate is close at hand, in a limited number of forced moves. The loss of a piece here or there, the defeat of one or another division of the army, cannot affect or prolong the result. The combination is so perfect that failure is impossible!"

Yours ever,

The following noble words, says a Massachusetts paper, were spoken by a private of the Fourth Maine Regiment, who was wounded and taken prisoner at Bull Run, and has since died in a Richmond prison. The occasion of their utterance was the last meeting between him and his father, on the eve of the former's departure for the seat of war. "Father," said the young soldier, "whatever may happen to me, don't reproach yourself for consenting to my enlistment. You have done right in letting me go, for my country calls and I must go. I will never return to you in disgrace. I will stick to the flag of my country as long as there is a shred of it left, and when the flag is gone, I will contend for the ground on which it stood, and for the pole which bore it."

The Duke of Wellington was remarkable for the coolness with which he gave his directions. Even in the heat of an engagement he has been known to give a humorous observation, especially when it seemed to raise the spirits of his men. Thus, when the British were storming Badajoz, his Grace rode up while the balls were falling around, and observing an artilleryman particularly active, inquired the man's name. He was answered "Taylor." "A very good name, too," said Wellington. "Cheer up, my men; our Taylor will soon make a pair of breeches—in the walls." At this rally the men forgot the danger of their situation, a burst of laughter broke from them, and the next charge carried the fortress.

Vanity Fair, says the last British performance is the "American Cussin."

## United States Mail.

## MISSOURI.

POST OFFICE DEPARTMENT,  
Washington, November 30, 1861.

PROPOSALS will be received at the Contract Office of this Department until 10 a. m. of Monday, March 31, 1862, for conveying the mails of the United States for four years, commencing July 1, 1862, and ending June 30, 1866, in the State of MISSOURI, on the routes and by the schedules of departures and arrivals herein specified.

Decisions announced by April 24, 1862.

(Bidders will examine carefully the forms, and instructions annexed; especially the latter part of instruction 19.)

10401 From St. Louis, by Cheltenham, Webster Station, Kirkwood, Bartlett's Station, Glenwood, Eureka, Allenton, Pacific, Gray's Summit, Augusta Station, South Point, Washington, Dundee, New Haven, Berger, Hermann, Morrison, Champlin, Mexico, Bonner's, Osage City, Jefferson City, Dixonville, Elston Station, Lookout, Tipton, Clarkburg, Round Hill, Tipton, Synapse, Overville, Smith City, and Ararat, to Redvia, 189 miles and back, daily, and twice daily, when the trains so run.

Leave St. Louis daily at 6:20 a. m.;  
Arrive Redvia daily at 3:40 a. m.;  
Leave Redvia daily at 3:40 a. m.;  
Arrive at St. Louis by 7 p. m.

10402 From St. Louis, by Baden, Normandy, Bridgeton, St. Charles, St. Peter's, O'Fallon, Wentzville, Snow Hill, Wright City, Warrenton, Green Hill, High Hill, New Florence, Montgomery City, Wellsville, Leutree, Mexico, Central A., Sturgis, Randon, H. Allen, Cairo, and Jacksonville, to Macon City, 174 miles and back, daily, or twice daily, when the trains so run.

Leave St. Louis daily at 10:30 p. m.;  
Arrive at Macon City next day by 9 a. m.;  
Leave Macon City daily at 3 p. m.;  
Arrive at St. Louis next day by 1 a. m.

10403 From St. Louis, by Carondelet, Jefferson, Partridge, Union, Sulphur Springs, Landing, Potosi, Bailey's Station, Genett, Le Sueur, Tyro, Clark's Station, Berger, Cadet Station, Mineral Point, Hopewell Furnace, Irondale, Dent's Station, Iron Mountain, and Middletown, to Pilot Knob, 171 miles and back, daily, with branch from Mineral Point to Potosi and back, daily, (4 miles,) in due connection.

Leave St. Louis daily at 11 1/2 a. m.;  
Arrive at Pilot Knob by 7 p. m.;  
Leave Pilot Knob daily at 9 a. m.;  
Arrive at St. Louis by 8 p. m.

10404 From St. Louis, by Cap Au Grey, Clarksville, Louisiana, Gilgah, Ill., Cincinnati, Hannibal, Mo., Quincy, Ill., La Grange, Mo., Canton, Alexandria, and Warsaw, Ill., to Keokuk, Iowa, 239 miles and back, six times a week during navigation season.

Leave St. Louis daily, except Sunday, at 5 p. m.;  
Arrive at Keokuk in 36 hours by 5 a. m.;  
Leave Keokuk daily, except Tuesday, at 8 a. m.;

Arrive at St. Louis in 28 hours by 12 m.

10405 From St. Louis, by Merriam's Point, Harrisonville, Ill., Solms, Mo., Fort Charter, Ill., St. Genevieve, Mo., Saint Mary, Chester, Ill., Fort Perry, Mo., Jones's Creek, Ill., Wittenburg, Leavelle, Mo., Grand Tower, Ill., Union Point, Shawfield, Mo., Neely's Landing, Vandell's Landing, Caddis Springs, Mo., Santa Fe, Cominere, Mo., Gasconade, Ill., Price's Landing, Mo., and Bird's Point, to Cairo, Ill., 290 miles and back, twice a week.

Leave St. Louis Tuesday and Friday at 4 p. m.;  
Arrive at Cairo next days by 6 p. m.;  
Leave Cairo Wednesday and Saturday at 11 p. m.;  
Arrive at St. Louis next Friday and Monday at 11 a. m.

Bids for three trips a week invited.

10406 From St. Louis, by Rock Hill, Des Peres, Manchester and Ellisville, to Fox Creek, 25 miles and back, three times a week to Manchester, and once a week residue.

Leave St. Louis Tuesday, Thursday, and Saturday at 7 a. m.;  
Arrive at Manchester by 11 a. m.;  
Leave Manchester Monday, Wednesday, and Friday at 7 a. m.;  
Arrive at St. Louis by 11 a. m.

10407 From St. Louis, by Central, Grove Coeur, and Belmont, to Bonhomme, 25 miles and back, once a week.

Leave St. Louis Monday at 6 a. m.;  
Arrive at Bonhomme by 6 p. m.;  
Leave Bonhomme Tuesday at 6 a. m.;  
Arrive at St. Louis by 6 p. m.

10408 From Kirkwood, by Sappington, Fenton, High Ridge, and Heloise's Creek, to Hillsborough, 36 miles and back, once a week.

Leave Kirkwood Tuesday at 12 m.;  
Arrive at Hillsborough next day by 6 p. m.;  
Leave Hillsborough Monday at 6 a. m.;  
Arrive at Kirkwood next day by 11 a. m.

10409 From Dundee, by Campbellton and Port Hudson, to Cedar Fork, 17 miles and back, once a week.

Leave Dundee Saturday at 1 p. m.;  
Arrive at Cedar Fork by 7 p. m.;  
Leave Cedar Fork Saturday at 6 a. m.;  
Arrive at Dundee by 12 m.

10410 From Jefferson City, by Clayville and Columbia, to Centralia, 50 miles and back, six times a week.

Leave Jefferson City daily, except Sunday, at 6 a. m.;  
Arrive at Centralia next day by 9 a. m.;  
Leave Centralia daily, except Sunday, at 10 a. m.;  
Arrive at Jefferson City next day by 1 p. m.

10411 From Jefferson City, by Hibernia, New Bloomfield, Fulton, Jones's Tan Yard, Williamsburg, and Danville, to New Florence, 56 miles and back, six times a week.

Leave Jefferson City daily, except Sunday, at 6 a. m.;  
Arrive at New Florence next day by 12 m.;  
Leave New Florence daily, except Sunday, at 1 p. m.;  
Arrive at Jefferson City next day by 6 p. m.

10412 From Jefferson City, by Brazito, and Hickory Hill, to Tusculum, 34 miles and back, three times a week.

Leave Jefferson City Tuesday, Thursday, and Saturday, at 6 a. m.;  
Arrive at Tusculum by 6 p. m.;  
Leave Tusculum Monday, Wednesday, and Friday at 6 a. m.;  
Arrive at Jefferson City by 6 p. m.

10413 From Jefferson City to Castle Rock 3 miles and back, twice a week.

Leave Jefferson City, Wednesday and Saturday at 3 1/2 p. m.;  
Arrive at Castle Rock by 7 p. m.;  
Leave Castle Rock Wednesday and Saturday at 9 a. m.;  
Arrive at Jefferson City by 1 p. m.

10414 From Jefferson City, by Osage bluff, Saint Thomas, Manton, Mason, Vienna, and Chitty Dale, to Little Piney, 71 miles and back, once a week.

Leave Jefferson City Sunday at 6 a. m.;  
Arrive at Little Piney next day by 8 p. m.;  
Leave Little Piney Tuesday at 6 a. m.;  
Arrive at Jefferson City next day by 8 p. m.

10415 From Clarksburg to Pisgah, 9 miles and back, twice a week.

Leave Clarksburg Tuesday and Friday at 2 p. m.;  
Arrive at Pisgah by 4 p. m.;  
Leave Pisgah Tuesday and Friday at 8 a. m.;  
Arrive at Clarksburg by 10 a. m.

10416 From Tipton, by Wheatland, Versailles, Gravois's Mills, and Middletown, to Linn Creek, 48 miles and back, three times a week.

Leave Tipton Tuesday, Thursday and Saturday at 1 p. m.;  
Arrive at Linn Creek next days at 5 p. m.;  
Leave Linn Creek Monday, Wednesday, and Friday at 8 a. m.;  
Arrive at Tipton next days by 12 m.

10417 From Bonnet's by Linn Creek, to Linn, 13 miles and back, three times a week.

Leave Bonnet's Monday, Wednesday and Friday at 3 p. m.;  
Arrive at Linn by 7 p. m.;  
Leave Linn Monday, Wednesday, and Friday at 8 a. m.;  
Arrive at Bonnet's by 12 m.

10418 From Linn, by Rich Fountain, Painewick, Vienna, Iberia, and Big Tavern, to Tusculum, 72 miles and back, once a week.

Leave Linn Monday at 6 a. m.;  
Arrive at Tusculum next Wednesday by 12 m.;  
Leave Tusculum Wednesday at 1 p. m.;  
Arrive at Linn next Friday by 6 p. m.

10419 From Medora, by Linn and Rich Fountain, to Vienna, 45 miles and back, once a week.

Leave Medora Wednesday at 6 a. m.;  
Arrive at Vienna by 9 p. m.;  
Leave Vienna Thursday at 6 a. m.;  
Arrive at Medora by 9 p. m.

10420 From Osage City, by Weppahia, Prairie Creek, Payson, Pay D. W. Lane's Prairie, Spanish Prairie, High Grove, St. James, Marquette, South Lee, Osage, and Harmony to Caledonia, 145 miles and back, once a week.

Leave Osage City Wednesday at 3 p. m.;  
Arrive at Caledonia next Saturday by 6 p. m.;  
Leave Caledonia Sunday at 6 a. m.;  
Arrive at Osage City next Wednesday by 12 m.

10421 From Osage City to Taos, 5 miles and back, twice a week.

Leave Osage City Monday and Friday at 4 p. m.;  
Arrive at Taos by 6 p. m.;  
Leave Taos Monday and Friday at 2 p. m.;  
Arrive at Osage City by 4 p. m.

10422 From Chamolis, by Bailey's Creek, Pryor's Mill, Mt. Sterling, and W. Collins, to Canaan, 39 miles and back, once a week.

Leave Chamolis Tuesday at 6 a. m.;  
Arrive at Canaan by 6 p. m.;  
Leave Canaan Wednesday at 6 a. m.;  
Arrive at Chamolis by 6 p. m.

10423 From Chamolis to Portland, 5 miles and back, once a week.

Leave Chamolis Saturday at 2 p. m.;  
Arrive at Portland by 4 p. m.;  
Leave Portland Saturday at 9 a. m.;  
Arrive at Chamolis by 11 a. m.

10424 From Hermann, by Bay, Mount Sterling, Cooper Hill, Hyron, and Steens Prairie, to Pay Down, 51 miles and back, once a week.

Leave Hermann Friday at 2 1/2 p. m.;  
Arrive at Pay Down next day by 7 1/2 p. m.;  
Leave Pay Down Thursday at 6 a. m.;  
Arrive at Hermann next day by 12 m.

10425 From Hermann, by Gasconade Ferry, Fredricksburg, and Bailey's Creek, to Linn, 38 miles and back, once a week.

Leave Hermann Tuesday at 6 a. m.;  
Arrive at Linn by 6 p. m.;  
Leave Linn Monday at 6 a. m.;  
Arrive at Hermann by 6 p. m.

10426 From Washington to Union, 10 miles and back, six times a week.

Leave Washington daily, except Sunday at 12 m.;  
Arrive at Union by 2 p. m.;  
Leave Union daily, except Sunday, at 8 a. m.;  
Arrive at Washington by 10 a. m.

10427 From Union, by Jeffriesburg, Beaufort, Snow Hill, Barbours, Owensville, Canaan, Cleavesville, Lanes Prairie, Maries Creek, Chitty Dale, Humbolt, Cherry, and Riggs Point, to Lebanon, 136 miles and back, once a week.

Leave Union Monday at 6 a. m.;  
Arrive at Lebanon next Wednesday by 6 p. m.;  
Leave Lebanon Thursday at 6 a. m.;  
Arrive at Union next Saturday by 6 p. m.

10428 From St. Clair, by Young's Mills, Japan, Boone, Oak Hill, Jake's Prairie, High Grove, Spanish Prairie, Avery, and Pleasant Woods, to Little Piney, 78 miles and back, once a week.

Leave St. Clair Saturday at 6 a. m.;  
Arrive at Little Piney next Monday by 12 m.;  
Leave Little Piney Monday at 1 p. m.;  
Arrive at St. Clair next Wednesday by 1 p. m.

10429 From Pacific, by Robertsville, Mozele, Saint Clair, Stanton, Copper Mines, Sullivan, Bourbon, Leasburgh, Cuba, Knob View, Saint James, Dillon, and Rolla, to Little Piney, 90 miles and back, six times a week.

Leave Pacific daily, except Sunday, at 10.40 a. m.;  
Arrive at Little Piney by 5.30 p. m.;  
Leave Little Piney daily, except Sunday, at 10.30 a. m.;  
Arrive at Pacific by 5 p. m.

10430 From Robertsville, by Calvey, Grubbsville, Kuckers Prairie, to Rickwood 28 miles and back, once a week.

Leave Robertsville Friday at 8 a. m.;  
Arrive at Rickwood by 5 p. m.;  
Leave Rickwood Saturday at 8 a. m.;  
Arrive at Robertsville by 5 p. m.

10431 From Canaan, by Bon, Argo, Bourbon, Harrison's Mills, Rock Spring, and Fourche a Renaut, to Potosi, 73 miles and back, once a week.

Leave Canaan Wednesday at 7 a. m.;  
Arrive at Potosi next day by 6 p. m.;  
Leave Potosi Monday at 7 a. m.;  
Arrive at Canaan next day by 6 p. m.

10432 From Wentzville, by Flint Hill, Troy, Old Alexandria, Auburn, Prairieville, Bowling Green, Louisiana, Frankfort, and New London, to Hannibal, 70 miles and back, six times a week, from 1st November to 1st March, and three times a week residue of year.

Leave Wentzville Monday, Wednesday, and Friday at 12 m.;  
Arrive at Hannibal next day by 8 p. m.;  
Leave Hannibal Monday, Wednesday, and Friday at 7 a. m.;  
Arrive at Wentzville next days by 5 p. m.

10433 From South Point, by Augusta, Femme Osage, and New Melle, to Hamburg, returning via Missouri, Schleursburgh, and Augusta, to South Point, equal to 31 miles and back, three times a week.

Leave South Point Monday, Wednesday, and Friday at 11 a. m.;  
Arrive at Hamburg next days by 2 p. m.;  
Leave Hamburg Tuesday, Thursday, and Saturday at 3 p. m.;  
Arrive at South Point next days by 10 a. m.

10434 From St. Peter's, by Cottleville and Naylor's Store, to Wellsburgh, 16 miles and back, three times a week.

Leave St. Peter's Tuesday, Thursday, and Saturday at 9 a. m.;  
Arrive at Wellsburgh by 2 p. m.;  
Leave Wellsburgh Tuesday, Thursday, and Saturday at 2 1/2 p. m.;  
Arrive at St. Peter's by 8 p. m.

10435 From Wellsburgh, by Oakwood and Pitts, to Warrenton, 24 miles and back, once a week.

Leave Wellsburgh Friday at 10 a. m.;  
Arrive at Warrenton by 7 p. m.;  
Leave Warrenton Saturday at 8 a. m.;  
Arrive at Wellsburgh by 5 p. m.

10436 From Wellsburgh to O'Fallon, 4 miles and back, three times a week.

Leave Wellsburgh Monday, Wednesday, and Friday at 10 a. m.;  
Arrive at O'Fallon by 11 a. m.;  
Leave O'Fallon Monday, Wednesday, and Friday at 11 1/2 a. m.;  
Arrive at Wellsburgh by 1 p. m.

10437 From Pinckney, by Loure Island and Big Spring, to Danville, 31 miles and back, once a week.

Leave Pinckney Wednesday at 6 a. m.;  
Arrive at Danville by 5 p. m.;  
Leave Danville Tuesday at 6 a. m.;  
Arrive at Pinckney by 5 p. m.

10438 From Pinckney, by H. Stein and Marthesville, to Femme Osage, 21 miles and back, once a week.

Leave Pinckney Friday at 8 a. m.;  
Arrive at Femme Osage by 4 p. m.;  
Leave Femme Osage Saturday at 8 a. m.;  
Arrive at Pinckney by 4 p. m.

10439 From Troy by Millwood and Louisville, to Ashier, 20 miles and back, twice a week.

Leave Troy Wednesday and Saturday at 3 a. m.;  
Arrive at Ashier by 6 p. m.;  
Leave Ashier Tuesday and Friday at 8 a. m.;  
Arrive at Troy by 6 p. m.

10440 From Troy, by Cuvier, Lost Branch, and Lead Creek, to Middletown, 30 miles and back, once a week.

Leave Troy Saturday at 7 a. m.;  
Arrive at Middletown by 5 p. m.;  
Leave Middletown Friday at 7 a. m.;  
Arrive at Troy by 5 p. m.

10441 From Cap au Grey, by Chantilly, Troy, Hawk Point, Truxton, Tivert, Price's Branch, and Montgomery City, to Danville, 57 miles and back, once a week.

Leave Cap au Grey Thursday at 6 a. m.;  
Arrive at Danville next day by 12 m.